

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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## GRAPHOPHONE CO. WAGES WILL BE HIGHEST IN THE CITY, DODGE'S PROMISE

**Conciliatory Meeting of Head of Company with Strikers Leads to Move to Resume Work in Factory on Monday Morning.**

**Many Departments Favor Revised Schedule of Wage Increases, But Metal Polishers' Objection Leads to Postponement of Settlement.**

The strike at the American Graphophone Co. will probably be ended this evening and the workers will be back in the factory Monday. If the adjustments that are being made this afternoon are satisfactory to the polishers and pressmen, the siege will be closed.

President F. T. Dodge of the company broke all precedents for manufacturers this morning when he attended the mass meeting of the workers in Earle's hall and addressed them. His talk was conciliatory.

For nearly four hours this morning the offers of increased wages to the strikers were discussed by each department in turn. A vote was taken by each and nearly all voted to accept.

A statement by the company, made yesterday afternoon, and containing the list of concessions was brought into the meeting by Chairman Walter Ford, who had talked with the officials in the presence of two witnesses.

The strikers had asked a general increase of 20 per cent. Some of the offers of increases made are: part cases, 15 per cent; dictaphone assembly, 9 per cent; record stock, 13 per cent; cabinet, 12 per cent; press, 22 per cent; lathe, 24 per cent.

The meeting opened with a talk by President Dodge. He said there had been a misunderstanding, that an offer had been made and the men had quit without giving time to have it considered. He declared they had lost money and the company had lost money thereby.

He said the offer made today is designed to make the Graphophone Co. the shop in which the highest factory wages in Bridgeport are paid. "This is a talk of dollars, not of words," he said.

"We're trying to do the fair thing. We want the co-operation of our employees," he said.

Mr. Dodge said the employees can buy the stock of the company and have an interest in it, the same as he has. He said they can receive the dividends the same as he does.

After making his talk, Mr. Dodge left the hall. Some of the men were inclined to ask him questions and argue, but all attempts were squelched by Chairman Ford.

The presence of Mr. Dodge was taken as a favorable omen because he refused, at first, to meet even a committee of employees and he had been quoted as saying that he would fill his factory.

The company didn't expressly offer recognition of a committee to review grievances of employees. The offer made was that the employees could complain to the foreman, if they have a legitimate grievance and if the foreman doesn't give them satisfaction, they may go to the superintendent or factory manager, if necessary. Chairman Ford says he was assured that, if the foreman did not report the grievances, they will be discharged.

After the statement of the company was read, a vote was taken by each department. Those that voted to accept are: Packing and shipping, metal masters, hand screw, assembly, tool, electric motor, special, part stores, dictaphone assembly, final inspection, press, lathe, milling, reproducing, cabinet, drilling and graphophone adjusting departments.

The metal polishers protested accepting what was offered them. After much arguing, they met in a side room and voted unanimously to stick to their demands for \$18 a week for an eight hour day and for the recognition of a shop committee. "The polishers went out because they wanted a shop committee and wanted the cutting of wages stopped," said their spokesman.

We went out a year ago last March and were out for three days because our wages had been cut. We shall insist upon a shop committee."

The pressmen wanted a shop committee also. They refused the offer of an increase in wages too, which was one cent a week more than they were offered the day they quit. They protest against the custom of putting

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**Maurice J. Koplansky Wants Another Name**

Maurice J. Koplansky of this city prefers to be known by the more romantic name of Maurice Cope. He filed a petition in the civil superior court today asking for permission to make the change. Koplansky says he was born in Kosioid, Russia, in 1877, and has resided in this state for 18 years. He says he is generally known as Maurice Cope and nobody will be injured if the change in name is made legal.

## POLICE GUARDING AGAINST RIOTING AT NEW BRITAIN

**Big Detail at Corbin Plant Where More Men Go Out on Strike.**

New Britain, Conn., Sept. 25.—Repetition of yesterday's strike at the plant of the Corbin Screw Division of the American Hardware Corporation, was prevented today by a squad of eighteen regular policemen in charge of a sergeant, who had the situation well in hand. The proclamation issued by Mayor George Quigley forbidding rioting within 200 feet of the plant, was strictly enforced. Firemen are stationed near the factory ready to extinguish any fires that may be started and also prepared to lay a line of hose and direct the stream on rioters should this be necessary.

Nearly 500 more from the screw division joined the strike this morning. These included automatic machine tenders, tool makers, dye makers, nut makers and many other departments. Demands were presented to the officials of the concern several days ago and they were given until 11 o'clock this morning to reply favorably. No reply was forthcoming.

A demonstration by those who had already struck was confined to cheering, the police keeping the crowd on the move.

Mayor Quigley's order to dealers not to sell arms and ammunition is being lived up to strictly.

Mayor Quigley addressed a mass meeting of strikers from the New Britain Machine Company at 11 o'clock this morning. He appealed to his auditors to refrain from boisterous conduct and asked their support in keeping peace. By a rising vote, the strikers decided to assist the authorities in preserving order.

"Outside Influence" is Charged When 400 Join Freight Strike

New York, Sept. 25.—Four hundred men working on the piers in the North river went out on strike today for more pay.

The walkout increases the number of longshoremen on strike to about 500, which together with 2,100 men who have been on strike for a week or more at the railroad terminals on the New Jersey side of the Hudson, makes a total of nearly 3,000 idle freight handlers in the Metropolitan district.

The walkout today was coincident with the posting of placards along the waterfront calling upon driver captains, boatmen, deckhands, firemen, etc., to organize to get out of the extra profits that the owners are getting from our labor since the European war began."

The notice was signed by the "Harbor and Boatmen's Union" and announced a mass meeting September 28.

The longshoremen now on strike were employed by the Marine and Metropolitan Steamship companies and the Jersey Central and Pennsylvania Railroads.

"Why the men walked out is more than I can tell," said Albert Smith, superintendent of the steamship companies. "They receive the best pay along the river front and when they walked out this morning they voiced no grievances, but merely said they were through. This is what I characterize as labor unrest coming from an outside influence that we cannot but our finger on. I am sure that the longshoremen's union is not behind this walkout."

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## GIRL KILLED IN AUTO INSISTED ON TAKING RISK

**Ina Bennett's Father Listens To Story of Automobile Tragedy.**

**DRINK NOT TO BLAME, ALL WITNESSES SAY**

**Police Continue Investigations—Coroner Liberates Other Motorists.**

That Ina Bennett, the pretty 21-year-old Wilton girl, who was killed in an early morning automobile mishap at Fairfield and Clinton avenues, insisted upon perching upon the fall of the car, started the tragedy, was the testimony of all three before Coroner John J. Phelan in his inquest today.

The fatality was the outcome of a chance ride, with chance acquaintances, through several streets in the progress of the night's outing, all witnesses claimed that none of the party was visibly affected by what they had to drink.

The story of the ride from the home in Wilton to Walnut Beach, the party at dinner, then the start homeward with the light hearted girl insisting upon sitting in her dangerous post, laughing aside the pleadings of her friends, when the crash came, the car, passing a trolley car, struck one trolley pole, then swayed into a second pole, the fall of the girl in the street, and her speedy death—all was recounted before the coroner today.

Although the coroner's inquest today, while the father of the girl, unimpaired of the presence of his dead daughter's companions, listened intently, grief written upon his countenance as he gathered the facts of his daughter's death.

When death came to Miss Bennett she was sitting on the top of a two-passenger roadster. Charles C. Bland, a wealthy building contractor of Stamford, was driving Benjamin J. Davis, an auto supplies dealer of Stamford, and Miss Emma Alling of Wilton, a girl chum, were also riding in the car. In attempting to pass a trolley car at the intersection of the machine struck one pole, then another and Miss Bennett was thrown to her death.

Whether the girl was thrown out after the machine struck the second pole no witness of the accident can say. Bland who was driving the car was released today in charge of his counsel, Attorney Hugh J. Lavery. He was arraigned in the city court today. He was then taken before Coroner Phelan and later allowed to go to his home in Stamford. His father, James P. Bland, also a contractor, came here today to furnish bail but the court did not require it. Bland was charged by Policeman E. V. Cassidy with reckless driving and with operating a car without a chauffeur's license. Although he had no license, Bland had it with him when taken into custody last night. He was locked up last night at police headquarters as were Davis and Miss Alling.

After the coroner today all three told their stories. Their statements and those of witnesses of the fatality appear to agree except as to the speed at which Bland was driving his car when he struck the pole.

Miss Alling, who is tall, blonde and pretty, gave her testimony in a rather hesitating manner before the coroner today, but she was quite positive in her statement that Bland was not driving fast when the crash came and she also said he did not drive fast at any time during the ride. She claimed that Davis cautioned Miss Bennett about riding on the top of the car and that he tried to induce her to get down in the seat. She said at one time Davis sat in the seat in order to hold Miss Bennett on top of the car.

Everett Bennett, father of the dead girl, who is said to be a prosperous Wilton farmer, came into Coroner Phelan's office while the inquest was in progress today. He seemed overcome with grief. He did not

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**MINISTER PLANS TO REBUKE POLITICIANS FOR SUNDAY PICNICS**

**Rev. E. C. Carpenter Will Talk on Drink and Politics in Stratford.**

(Special to The Farmer)

Stratford, Sept. 25.—Rev. Ernest C. Carpenter, pastor of the Stratford M. E. church, who has taken an aggressive stand against the demon rum in the political affairs of Stratford, will deliver a sermon tomorrow

on the theme of which has set the town agog.

His subject will be, "Lager Parties, Beer Picnics and Boozie Clubs: What Is the Harm?" He told The Farmer today that he does not purpose to mention any names from the pulpit.

The fact that Mr. Carpenter, prior to the recent primary election, was said to have acquired a number of photographs of Sunday picnics in which beer kegs occupied a position in the foreground, makes the announcement of his subject of keen interest in Stratford just now.

Prior to the primaries, politicians of the town, in their eagerness to enlist the voters in their respective causes, were hosts at Sunday outings. These were not gatherings of total abstainers, and following at least one of the gatherings, men were seen staggering about the streets of the town. Mr. Carpenter waited upon one of the politicians and rebuked him in stinging terms.

## "LEAVE OF ABSENCE" FOR DUMBA DOESN'T SATISFY U. S.; RECALL DEMANDED

Washington, Sept. 25.—Ambassador Penfield, at Vienna, has been instructed to make clear to the Austrian government informally that the United States must insist on the recall of Dr. Dumba, the Austrian ambassador, and that his departure "on leave of absence" would not be satisfactory.

**"IDIOTIC YANKEES" ONLY FEW EDITORS, VON PEPE SAYS**

San Francisco, Sept. 25.—Captain Franz Von Pepe, military attaché to the German embassy at Washington, who is here with Prince Von Hatzfeldt, of the embassy, denied today that the expression "idiotic Yankees" contained in a letter entrusted to J. F. J. Archibald, and intercepted by the British authorities, was intended to apply to the American people.

"The much discussed letter was to my wife," he said, "in passing it may be said that it was a man's letter to his wife in a deuced bad form. When the British authorities at Falmouth found these letters on Mr. Archibald they pounced with avidity on the two words that have made all this trouble."

"They published only an excerpt of my letter, thus changing its meaning entirely. My wife or anyone else, reading the letter from start to finish, would have known definitely whether 'idiotic Yankees' referred to the publishers of a New York newspaper."

"The newspaper had been calling us conspirators and other objectionable epithets. It gave especially vehement after a portfolio containing certain of our private papers had been stolen from one of our men on the train. In writing to my wife I dealt with these publications. Not a word did the British publish about these parts of my letter."

Between Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, and the state department, the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic probably will be resumed next week. The German ambassador is understood to have received several messages from his foreign office giving its opinion of the evidence submitted by the United States to show the ship was torpedoed without warning and did not move to attack the undersea boat.

It is not known definitely whether Germany is prepared to disavow the sinking of the Arabic, with the loss of American lives or intends to suggest the submission of differences on questions of fact to The Hague. President Wilson's position is unchanged that the principles involved cannot be submitted to arbitration although questions of fact or amount of indemnity might be settled in that manner.

## LAUNCH OWNERS MEET WEDNESDAY TO DISCUSS LAW

**Motorboat Men Throughout City Question Validity of New Statute.**

The new motorboat registration law passed by the last session of the general assembly which becomes effective on October 1st, is causing considerable discussion among motor boat owners of this section and there will be a meeting of representatives of all the yacht clubs of the city at the Pequonnock Yacht club, 66 California street, on next Wednesday evening to discuss the situation. The law imposes an annual fee of 50 cents upon all motorboat owners for registering their boats and provides that all registrations must be made on or before October 1st.

The motorboat men throughout the state are unable to see where to lay benefits them and some express an opinion that the state has not the right to impose such a fee since the navigable waters are under the supervision of the federal government.

It is probable that some action will be taken at the meeting Wednesday night to have the law repealed at the next session of the legislature which will be in 1917.

The law follows: "Section 1. Every owner of a motor boat residing in this state shall on or before October 1, 1915, file for record with the town clerk of the town in which such owner resides, a sworn statement of the length and beam of such boat, the kind of engine, and the number of cylinders and horsepower thereof, and his postoffice address. Each non-resident owner keeping any such boat within the state seven months prior to October 1st in each year, shall cause the same to be registered in the town where such boat is kept, as herein provided. Every person who shall own any motor boat shall cause the same to be registered in the manner here prescribed within 20 days from the date of acquiring such ownership. The owner of any motor boat, upon registering the same, shall pay to the town clerk a fee of 50 cents.

"Section 2. A boat having a portable motor shall not be considered a motor boat within the provisions of this act. The provisions of section one, of chapter 195, of the public acts of 1909 as amended by chapter 91, of the public acts of 1911, shall not apply to motor boats.

"Section 3. Any person who shall fail to comply with any provision of this act shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$100."

**Man Who Defrauded Aspirants to Masonry is Sentenced to Jail.**

In city court today Judge Frederic A. Bartlett imposed a sentence of 30 days in jail on Leopold Keller, alias Dr. Brandt, alias Dr. Davis, a pseudo physician, arraigned on the charge of defrauding Robert Owens and Chas. Smith, applicants for admission into the different lodges of Masons, under the pretense of being the examining physician of the lodge.

Keller has made a practice of obtaining money from applicants for admission into the order of Masons in different cities in the east. He was recently discharged from the Massachusetts penitentiary after completing a sentence of three months imposed upon him by the city courts of Boston, Springfield and Worcester. In each city he was sentenced to jail for 30 days on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses.

In this instance five counts were held against Keller but only two were pressed. He admitted his guilt in each case and then asked that leniency be shown him. Keller stated that he had committed the various crimes in order to procure money for the support of his wife and four children.

**Greek Residents of Connecticut Are Called to Colors**

Hartford, Sept. 25.—Greek reservists in this city received orders Friday night, from the consul general of Greece stationed in New York, to return to Greece and report to the colors. About 200 are said to be affected but a well known local Greek said today he did not believe more than 50 would respond. Many of these latter drew their money from banks today and will report to the consul general at once.

The Greek government pays all railroad fare and steamer transportation.

**JAILED 15 DAYS FOR ASSAULT ON WIFE**

Because Mrs. John Molchan of 161 Sterling street took upon herself to sell an iron bedstead to a friendly neighbor without first consulting her husband last evening, she was assaulted by her husband, John Molchan. In city court today she was given a jail sentence of 15 days.

## FREIGHT STRIKE CAUSING GREAT TIE-UP ON ROAD

**Three Thousand Cars Lie Idle in Yards Where There Are 300 Normally.**

**LACK OF SECTION HANDS IS SERIOUS**

**Another Great Disaster May Be Caused By Broken Tie or Slipped Bolt.**

A crisis that has caused indescribable confusion to the railroad company and is endangering daily the lives of the thousands of passengers that pass over the New Haven road has resulted from the strike of freight haulers, section hands and track walkers in this neighborhood.

Three thousand cars are in the East End and South End freight yards, making a condition that is getting almost out of control. In ordinary times 200 cars is a large number.

Another of the wrecks that made the name of the New Haven road synonymous with disaster not long ago is feared. Trackwalkers who had to go over every foot of the line every day to see that ties, tracks and bolts are in place, are out on strike, the company hasn't yet taken them back and none but a few foremen are trying to do their work.

A broken tie, a slipped bolt or a broken rail, things that are found and remedied every day by trackwalkers who call section hands to each spot in need of repair, may be the cause of loss of life. Without proper supervision a disastrous accident is likely to occur.

It was because of the poor upkeep of the road and the consequent finding of rotten ties and loose rails after wrecks, that Charles S. Mollen was arrested. Since the accession of Howard Elliott to the presidency, more attention has been given upkeep. Now, because the company is quibbling over the increased number of cars being full of freight and idle in the yards, a weighty problem is before the company.

"Freight is piling up in the houses. Gang foremen and others are doing twice the work they did before. With the increased number of cars being full of freight and idle in the yards, a weighty problem is before the company."

## GREAT BARRINGTON FORESEES LOSS OF MANY RAILROADERS

**Threatened Removal of 42 Families Rouses Merchants to Action.**

(Special to The Farmer.)

Great Barrington, Mass., Sept. 25.—The removal of 42 families from this town, principally to Pittsfield, is threatened as a result of radical changes in the routing of trains over the Berkshire division of the New Haven road.

Under the changes very recently effective in the schedule of the road, ten trains that formerly put up in Great Barrington, with locomotives in the round house here, have been routed to some extent to Pittsfield, and two in State line.

The threatened removal of the railroad employees whose work follows the location of these trains has brought a vigorous protest from the Great Barrington merchants, who see visions of greatly depleted incomes with the removal of the railroad men's families from their patrons.

As a result of the discussion of merchants and others, there will be a conference of prominent residents of the town and railroad officials here next week, probably on Tuesday.

**MERIDEN MANUFACTURER DEAD**

Meriden, Sept. 25.—William Zerkas, who began as a salesman and rose to be president and general manager of the Foster, Merriam & Company, hardware dealers, died at his home today after several months' illness, aged 65.

Mr. Zerkas was connected with Masonic bodies. He leaves no immediate family.

**TWO BURNED TO DEATH.**

Montreal, Sept. 25.—Two men were burned to death today in a fire which destroyed the cash and door factory of Benoit Sons on St. Timothee street. Another man is missing. Seventy other workmen escaped with difficulty. The property loss is estimated at \$100,000.

**CHAUFFEUR, WITH ONE ARM CUT OFF, DRIVES TO DOCTOR**

New Preston, Conn., Sept. 25.—Brant Calkins, a chauffeur for John E. Bates, hat manufacturer who has a summer home at Lake Waramaug, here, had his right arm cut off while at work on an ensilage cutter at the silo on the farm today. Calkins took his automobile and although blood was flowing from the arm, he drove two miles into New Preston village and had a doctor dress it. He then was taken to the Danbury hospital.

Huntington, Conn., Sept. 25.—Roland Zwayer, aged 49, died while working at a silo on his farm at White Hills, today. His men, thinking he had fallen or been overcome, put him into an automobile and hurried to the office of Dr. Shelton, the medical examiner, who also was Zwayer's family doctor. The decision was given that death was due to heart trouble and came instantaneously. A family survives.

## ZEEBRUGGE TARGET OF WARSHIPS

**Three British Battleships Shell Town For Several Hours and It Is Believed Heavy Damage Has Been Wrought.**

**Greek King and Premier at Conference Agree on Plans to Uphold Treaties—Bulgars in Moscow Defy Mobilization.**

Amsterdam, Sept. 25.—British warships again bombarded the Belgian town of Zeebrugge this morning. Three ships were engaged. Flashes of their heavy guns were visible on the Dutch coast.

The extent of the engagements has not been learned. The firing of heavy guns continued for hours and it is believed that great damage has been done.

**GREECE TO KEEP TREATY PROMISE**

Athens, Sept. 25.—King Constantine and Premier Venizelos at a conference this morning reached a complete agreement in regard to both the steps already taken by the government and measures which are demanded to meet the Balkan situation. These measures include maintenance of Greece's treaty obligations.

**BULGARS IN MOSCOW DEFEY MOBILIZATION**

London, Sept. 25.—Reuter's correspondent in Moscow says that Bulgarian colonists in that city have declined to obey the call to the colors. They are said to be sending messages and to Bulgarian statesmen deprecating a campaign against Serbia, stating that they would never participate in a fratricidal war.

**HOLLAND-AMERICA SHIP SUNK BY SUBMARINE**

London, Sept. 25.—The Holland-America freighter Eemdjik, 4,815 tons gross, has been sunk. A despatch from Norway says that her crew has been landed by the Swedish steamer Transnord. Eemdjik sailed from Buenos Ayres August 20 for Copenhagen with a cargo of 8,000 tons of maize.

**RUSSIA CLAIMS THREE DECISIVE VICTORIES**

London, Sept. 25.—The position of the Russian front from Vinna to the Italian frontier appears to have been improved greatly, three distinct victories having been recorded almost simultaneously at widely scattered sections. This achievement has mitigated to some extent the attack of Bulgaria. In the far north the situation is less favorable for the Russians. They are resisting Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's men with characteristic stubbornness but the admission that fighting is proceeding at Smolnin, three miles from Novo Alexandrovsk, indicates that the approaches to the latter town are in the hands of the Germans and that the fate of Dynek is in doubt.

East of Vinna, north of Pinsk and in the vicinity of Lutsk, the Russians have scored heavily. The Germans characterize their reverses east of Vinna—that is, at the Vileika railway junction—as of a temporary character, notwithstanding their losses of guns and prisoners. Near Pinsk Field Marshal Von Mackensen was thrown back in an engagement that has shaken his grip on the city. Further south the Russian holdings at Lutsk, are pressing their advantage, and seem to be assuming the dominance of the southern end of the line in a manner recalling the fighting of last spring.

Athens states that mobilization is proceeding today and that thousands of men are already in uniform. It is predicted that within a few days a majority of the reservists will have joined the colors.

**Says German Army Will Reach Sofia**

Amsterdam, Sept. 25.—Voicing the feeling that is being manifested throughout Germany at the attitude of Rumania, the Cologne Gazette says: "Whatever happens in the Balkans, Rumania is played out. Her role as a link between Austria and Turkey is finished. We shall pass through Sofia. That will teach Rumania to side with our foes."

**White Hills Farmer Drops Dead at Work**

Huntington, Conn., Sept. 25.—Roland Zwayer, aged 49, died while working at a silo on his farm at White Hills, today. His men, thinking he had fallen or been overcome, put him into an automobile and hurried to the office of Dr. Shelton, the medical examiner, who also was Zwayer's family doctor. The decision was given that death was due to heart trouble and came instantaneously. A family survives.